

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A container/cover assembly for containing a liquid substance and which provides protection against a toddler drowning as a result of falling into the container when its cover has been removed, said assembly comprising:

a container having an open top end and a closed bottom end defined by a side wall and a bottom wall formed integral with the side wall, said side wall being circular in cross-section and having a maximum diameter at said top end and said container having a height that substantially exceeds the magnitude of said maximum diameter, said bottom wall being characterized by an annular protuberance concentric with said side wall and surrounding a recessed section of said bottom wall, said annular protuberance having a curved cross-section that is a curved being an integral extension of said side wall and having a curved convex shape in cross-section that extends from said recessed section to said side wall, the diameter of said recessed section and the radius of curvature of said convex shape in cross-section being sized so that when the container is placed top end up on a floor or other supporting surface a circumferentially-extending portion of said annular protuberance located between said side wall and said recessed section will make a circular line contact with said floor or other supporting surface, with said circular line contact having a diameter that does not exceed said maximum diameter so that in the event that a toddler should fall head first into the open container while the container contains a liquid, the weight of the toddler exerted on the top end of the container will cause the container to tip over so as to spill the liquid and prevent the toddler from drowning; and

a cover for closing off said open top end of said container, said cover being characterized by a rim ~~portion~~ section and a ~~central-body-portion~~ crown section surrounded by said rim ~~portion~~ section, said rim ~~portion~~ section being adapted to make a locking connection with said side wall of said container, and said ~~central-body-portion~~ crown section being characterized by an annular portion

in the form of a concave depression having a curved cross-section cross-sectional configuration such that said annular protuberance of another like container will make a close fit in said depression.

2. (currently amended) A container/cover assembly according to claim 1 wherein said side wall has an outer surface and a circumferential radial projection on said outer surface, and said rim section comprises a top portion section- that projects above the level of said central body portion-crown section and a peripheral skirt ~~section~~ that extends below ~~the level of said central body portion~~ crown section, said skirt having an inner surface and means on said inner surface for making a snap locking connection with said radial projection, whereby to lock the cover to the container so as to close off said open top end.

3. (canceled)

4. (currently amended) A container for containing a liquid substance and which provides protection against a toddler drowning as a result of falling into the container, said container comprising an open top end and a closed bottom end formed by a side wall and a bottom wall that is integral with the side wall, said side wall being circular in cross-section and having a maximum diameter and a height that exceeds its maximum diameter, said bottom wall being characterized by an annular protuberance concentric with said side wall, said annular protuberance having a curved convex shape in radial cross-section and constituting ~~a curved~~ an integral extension of said side wall, and said annular protuberance projecting below the bottom end of said side wall and being shaped to make a circular line contact with a floor or other flat supporting surface inwardly of said side wall with said circular line contact having a diameter that does not exceed said maximum diameter, whereby if a toddler falls head first into the container while the container contains a liquid, the weight of the toddler

exerted on the top end of the container will cause the container to tip over so as to spill the liquid and prevent the toddler from drowning.

5. (currently amended) A container according to claim 4 wherein said ~~annular protuberance~~ convex shape has a circular curvature ~~a radius of curvature in the order of 2 inches centered eccentric to the longitudinal axis of the container.~~

6. (canceled).

7. (currently amended) A container according to claim ~~6~~ 4 wherein said bottom wall has a recessed center section surrounded by said annular protuberance, ~~and further wherein said protuberance projects about 0.3 inches below said center section.~~

8. (currently amended) A container according to claim 7 wherein said container has a height of approximately 14.2 inches, said side wall is tapered inwardly from top to bottom with a draft angle of about 4.5 degrees and has a maximum outside diameter of about 11.9 inches, and said center section has a maximum diameter of approximately 3 inches.

9. (currently amended) A container according to claim ~~6~~ 8 wherein the portion of said annular protuberance that makes said circular line contact with a flat supporting surface is characterized by a diameter of approximately 5 inches.

10. (currently amended) A container according to claim ~~6~~ wherein container has 4 having a height that is approximately 1.4 times the diameter of the virtual projection of said side wall at the level of the lowermost point of said annular protuberance, and further wherein the portion of said annular protuberance that makes said circular line contact with a flat supporting surface has a diameter that

is approximately 0.6 times the diameter of said vital projection of said side wall at the level of the lowermost point of said annular protuberance.

11. (currently amended) A container for containing a liquid substance and which provides protection against a toddler drowning as a result of falling into the container, said container comprising an open top end and a closed bottom end formed by a side wall and a bottom wall that is integral with the side wall, said side wall having a maximum diameter at said open top end and said container having an overall height measured between said open top end and said bottom end that is greater than said maximum diameter of said side wall, said bottom wall comprising an outer annular section that is an integral ~~having a curved cross-section at its outer margin whereby said outer margin of said bottom wall constitutes a curved~~ extension of said side wall and a recessed center section that is surrounded by and forms an integral extension of said outer annular section, said outer annular section having a convex circular curvature in cross-section whereby a circular portion of said outer annular section located between said outer wall and said recessed center section will make a circular line contact with a floor or other flat surface on which the container may be supported, said ~~curved extension~~ circular line contact having a diameter that does not exceed said maximum diameter of said side wall and said annular section having a single radius of curvature in cross-section such that should a toddler fall head first into the container while the container contains a liquid, the weight of the toddler exerted on the top end of the container will cause the container to tip over so as to spill the liquid and prevent the toddler from drowning.

12. (canceled)

13. (canceled)

14. (currently amended) A container for containing a liquid substance and which provides protection against a toddler drowning as a result of falling into the container, said container having an open top end and a closed bottom end defined by a side wall and a bottom wall ~~formed integral with the side wall, said side wall having a maximum diameter and said container having a height that exceeds said maximum diameter,~~ said bottom wall being characterized by an annular protuberance concentric with said side wall and a circular recessed center section surrounded by said annular protuberance, said annular protuberance extending between and formed integral with said recessed center section and said side wall, said annular protuberance having a curved convex configuration in radial cross-section so that a circular section of said annular protuberance located inwardly of said side wall is located furthest from said open top end and constitutes the lowest portion of said bottom wall, whereby when said container is placed top end up on a flat supporting surface said circular section of said annular protuberance will make a circular line contact with said supporting surface so that in the event that a toddler should fall head first into the open container while the container contains a liquid, the weight of the toddler exerted on the top end of the container will cause the container to tip over so as to spill the liquid and prevent the toddler from drowning ~~that is a curved extension of said side wall, and said annular protuberance surrounding a recessed center section of said bottom wall.~~

15. (currently amended) A container according to claim 14 23 wherein the effective diameter of said circular section that forms the lowest portion of said bottom wall is approximately 5 inches ~~said container is approximately 5 inches measured at the lowest point of said annular protuberance.~~

16. (original) A container according to claim 14 in combination with a cover for closing off said open top end of said container, said cover being characterized by a rim portion and a central body portion surrounded by said rim

portion, said rim portion being adapted to make a locking connection with said side wall of said container, and said central body portion being characterized by an annular depression having a curved cross-section such that said annular protuberance of another like container will make a close fit in said depression.

17. (canceled)

18. (currently amended) A container ~~and cover~~ according to claim ~~17~~ 14 wherein said side wall has a circular configuration in cross-section and further wherein said side wall has a draft angle of ~~approximately 4.5~~ not exceeding 5 degrees.

19. (currently amended) A container according to claim 14 wherein said recessed section and the radius of curvature of said annular protuberance are sized so that when said container is rested on a flat surface with said top end facing up a said lowest portion of said ~~annular protuberance that is furthest from said top end~~ bottom wall will make a circular line contact with said flat surface, ~~with~~ characterized by said circular line contact having a diameter that is approximately 0.6 times the diameter of a virtual projection of said side wall at the level of said lowest portion of said ~~annular protuberance that makes said circular line contact with said flat surface~~ bottom wall.

20. (new) A container/cover assembly according to claim 1 wherein said crown section comprises a flat center portion surrounded by said annular portion and a peripheral portion surrounding said annular portion, said crown section extends below the level of said top portion of said rim section, and said annular portion has a concave upper surface that is sized and shaped so that when another like container is positioned with its bottom end resting on said cover, the annular protuberance of said another like container will be disposed in said depression and in contact with said concave surface.

21. (new) A container according to claim 14 wherein said lowest portion of said bottom wall that makes a circular line contact with a supporting surface has a diameter that does not exceed one-half of said maximum diameter.
22. (new) A container according to claim 21 wherein said lowest portion of said bottom wall that makes a circular line contact with a supporting surface has a diameter that is no less than 25% of said maximum diameter.
23. (new) A container according to claim 22 wherein said container has a height of about 14 to about 15 inches and diameter of about 10.25 to about 11.25 inches, said annular protuberance has a radius of curvature in cross-section of approximately 2.5 inches, and said recessed section has a diameter of about 3 inches.
24. (new) A container according to claim 14 wherein said container has a height of about 14 to about 15 inches and diameter of about 10.25 to about 11.25 inches, said annular protuberance has a radius of curvature in cross-section of approximately 2.5 inches, and said recessed section has a diameter of about 3 inches.
25. (new) A container according to claim 24 wherein said recessed section is recessed about 0.300 inch above said lowest portion of said bottom wall.